

THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1863.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.

The Reported Political and Military Programme for the Spring Campaign.

What is to Be Done After Congress Adjourns.

Probable Action of Congress on the Financial Measures.

The Amount of Internal Revenue Already Collected.

Interesting Debate in the House on the Question of Arbitrary Arrests.

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1863.

IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS AND RUMORS.

There are some very important movements on foot in this city. The present apparent immobility of the army and the suggestive proceedings of Congress are indicative of this fact. There are besides a great many rumors in circulation in political circles, which are kept as confidentially as possible, in regard to what is going to be done after Congress adjourns, on the 4th of March next—not over a couple of weeks from the present time. It will be seen that very little opposition has been shown in Congress to the financial and military measures of the government. The conservatives have given them their support, and the consequence is that the new conservative scheme will soon become a law, as well as the financial measures for the maintenance of the army.

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THE ARMY NOMINATIONS.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that local express companies are subject to the provisions of the one hundred and fifth section of the Excise act, and for any violation thereof are liable to the penalty thereof prescribed.

INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES AGAINST ARMY OFFICERS.

The Military Commission, composed of Brigadier General Rockets, Crawford and Morello, to investigate charges against a large number of officers of the regular and volunteer army, is progressing with its business, and has already examined many of them. The ten days within which these officers are required to appear and render their excuses or establish their innocence will expire on the 20th inst., and those who do not report, either personally or otherwise, will be dismissed from the service.

MR. THADDEUS STEVENS AND SECRETARY STANTON.

Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, in the course of the debate to day upon the bill to appoint a solicitor for the War Department, at a salary of \$2,500, remained very quiet that the present Secretary of War needed a legal adviser in regard to contracts, but the late Secretary needed no such assistance.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1863.

RETIREMENT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT.

The Secretary presented a communication from the Vice President, stating that he should absent for the remainder of the session.

THE CASE OF DR. WILMER.

The commission composed of General Hitchcock and General Van Alen, to examine into the case of Dr. Wilmer, formerly rector of St. Mark's church in Philadelphia, concluded the investigation to day, and reported their finding to the Secretary of War. It will be recalled that Dr. Wilmer was arrested at the mouth of the Mississippi, attempting, in company with two vagrant Englishmen, to run the blockade, and upon his return was found documents from Jeff. Davis, accrediting him as the representative of the Southern church. He is charged not only with treason, but of being a spy.

PAYMENT OF SICK AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

The proceedings to day in the Senate were more of a business character than political.

Mr. Wilson introduced a resolution of instruction for preparing a bill whereby the soldiers in hospitals and in the convalescent camps shall be paid off in thirty days. This is more easily said than done.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MIDSHIPMEN.

A bill passed the Senate to day to give Senators and representatives the right to nominate two cadets each for the Naval Academy. As the bill is understood it legalizes the late appointments of the Secretary of the Navy. States that have not their full quota are to be first supplied.

GENERAL BUTLER INVITED TO VISIT BALTIMORE.

A committee of Baltimoreans of the City Councils waited upon General Butler to day at the National, to invite him to visit the city where he first engaged in military life.

Mr. Wilson, (rep.) of Mass., moved that the Military Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the bill to amend the act for the selection of the crew of the non-commissioned officers.

COMMISSION TO THE CREW OF THE MONITOR.

Mr. GRIMES, (rep.) of Iowa, from the Naval Committee, reported a joint resolution to compensate the crew of the United States steamer Monitor for the loss of clothing. As Passed.

RANK OF NAVY MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Mr. KENNEDY, (opp.) of Md., introduced a bill to amend the rank of medical officers in the United States Navy.

REAPPOINTMENT OF LINE OFFICERS IN THE NAVY.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Ohio, introduced a bill to amend the act to equalize the grade of line officers in the United States Navy. He referred to the Naval Committee.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., from the Military Committee, moved to discharge from the further consideration of the bill to amend the act for the selection of the crew of the non-commissioned officers.

COMMISSION TO THE CREW OF THE MONITOR.

Mr. GRIMES, (rep.) of Iowa, said he thought that the events of this war, and the importance of naval warfare, had rendered it necessary that all the fortifications, and, as at present advised, he should vote against the bill.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MIDSHIPMEN.

Mr. WILSON also, from the same committee, presented a letter from the Secretary of War, containing a letter from Mr. H. Haswell, in relation to the Banks expedition. Ordered to be referred.

THE COMMISSION BILL.

Mr. WILSON introduced a joint resolution to facilitate the payment of the sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals and convalescent camps. The resolution directs the Paymaster-General to make payment for their pay without deduction for days lost by reason of sickness.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MIDSHIPMEN.

Mr. DAVIS, (Union) of Ky., called up the bill to regulate the appointment of midshipmen in the navy. Passed.

REAPPOINTMENT OF LINE OFFICERS.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., presented the credentials of the Legislature of Missouri, to file a warranty expiring on the 4th of March next.

THE COMMISSION BILL.

Mr. CLARK, (opp.) of N. H., called up the bill for the settlement of claims for damages done by the Union to the property of the rebels.

NO AMENDMENTS WERE OFFERED, AND THE BILL PASSED.

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